



JOINT NEWS RELEASE

West Valley City
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West Valley City Names Lee W. Russo New Police Chief

West Valley City – City leaders today named Lee W. Russo as the new Chief of the city's police department. The announcement comes after an extensive nationwide search to replace former Chief Thayle "Buzz" Nielsen, who retired in March of this year.

"The selection process has been detailed and thorough, involving a carefully selected committee of West Valley City officials and members of associated outside entities including law enforcement, legal, media and other groups," says City Manager Wayne Pyle. "I am confident that we have chosen the best candidate to lead our police department into the future."

Chief Russo has served in law enforcement for nearly 30 years, most recently as Chief of Police for Covington, Kentucky. He began his career in law enforcement with the Baltimore County Police Department as a patrol officer, and served that organization for more than 20 years in various capacities including Detective, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Major and Captain. Russo has a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Delaware and a Masters Degree in Management from Johns Hopkins University.

Chief Russo and his wife reside in West Valley City and have three children.

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